

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(a) as being anticipated by McAulay et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,885,790). Independent claims 1-10 have been amended. New claims 12-13 have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-13 are pending.

Further, in the Office Action, the Examiner suggested adding headings to the specification. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's suggestion, however respectfully declines to add the headings as they are not required in accordance with MPEP §608.01(a).

The applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claim 11 is allowed.

On the merits, applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims, as amended, are patentable for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 1 is directed to a method of coding a audio signal comprising the steps of: subdividing the sound signal into a plurality of segments, each segment is coded to a corresponding frame, wherein the sound signal is represented as a set of sine waves defined by their amplitude and

frequency; storing the amplitude and the frequency of each sine wave in a segment in a frame, independently of other segments; and grouping the frames into n streams. Independent claims 4, 6 and 9 recite similar limitations.

To begin, McAulay does not code an audio signal into streams of frames for transmission over a network, see specification page 1, lines 15-24. McAulay teaches a speech analysis device it does not transport the frames over a network, see col. 1, lines 15-16 and lines 64-68.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that McAulay et al. does not teach storing the amplitude and the frequency of each sine wave in a segment in a frame, independently of other segments; and grouping the frames into n streams, as amended in claim 1.

The Office Action indicates that these limitations are disclosed in McAulay in col. 2. lines 38-43 and col. 2, lines 2-13. Applicants respectfully disagree. In these sections McAulay teaches a method that includes (a) selecting frames of samples from a waveform; (b) analyzing each frame of samples to extract a set of frequency components; (c) tracking the components from one frame to the next; and interpolating the values of the components from one frame to the next to obtain a parametric representation of the waveform....

Since McAulay does not use transport streams, there is no need to store the amplitude and the frequency of each sine wave in a segment in a frame. Nor

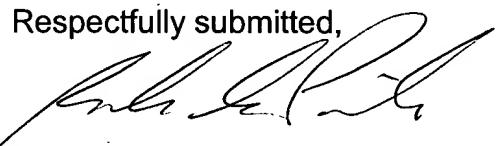
does it group the frames into streams, as specifically recited in amended claim 1. Although McAulay tracks the components from one frame to the next, this is different than grouping frames and forming transport streams for a network.

Since McAulay et al., does not teach, show or suggest all of the features of amended independent claims 1, 4, 6 and 9, as recited above, applicant respectfully submits that this claim is patentable over this reference.

Claims 2-3, 5, 7-8, 10, and 12-13 in this application are dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are, therefore, believed allowable and patentable for at least the same reasons.

The applicants have made a sincere attempt to advance the prosecution of this application by reducing the issues for consideration and specifically delineating the zone of patentability. The applicants submit that the claims, as they now stand, fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 102. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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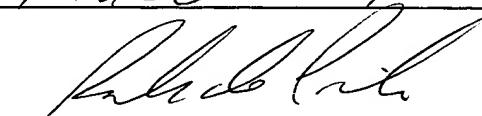
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On March 1, 2004

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